

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061522
ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:PM/ISO:PSCHLAMM

APPROVED BY:PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL

-----048411 100515Z /16

O 100218Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO NDU WASHDC IMMEDIATE

ICAF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

NWC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061522

FOLLOWING REPEAT WARSAW 1880 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BUDAPEST
AND MOSCOW MAR 07.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 1880

MOSCOW FOR DAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TAGS: OTRA, MILI, PL, HU, GW

SUBJ: PROPOSED VISITS TO POLAND BY NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU)
AND ARMY WAR COLLEGE (AWC) GROUPS AND EXECUTIVE SEMINAR

REF: A. STATE 47475, B. STATE 53024 BOTH NOTAL

1. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE PROPOSED VISITS BY GROUPS FROM THE TWO
NDU COMPONENTS, THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE (NWC) AND THE INDUSTRIAL
COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES (ICAF), TO POLAND IN APRIL (REF A) MAY
BE MORE THAN THE TRAFFIC WILL BEAR WITH THE GOP. THIS CONCERN IS
HEIGHTENED BY A REQUEST RECEIVED BY THE DAO TO CLEAR AND MAKE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR A VISIT TO WARSAW MARCH 11-14 BY TWO REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE ARMY WAR COLLEGE AT CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA. (THESE ARRANGEMENTS
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ARE CURRENTLY UNDER WAY WITH POLISH OFFICIALS). IT IS COMPOUNDED
FURTHER BY THE REQUEST FOR EMBASSY FACILITATION OF A MID-MAY
VISIT BY THE EXECUTIVE SEMINAR IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,
INCLUDING "ONE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH OF THE FOUR MILITARY
SERVICES" (REF B).

2. WE FEAR THAT TO GO FORWARD WITH ALL THESE REQUESTS WOULD INVITE VETOES OF ONE OR MORE OF THE VISITS. THE NWC VISIT, WHICH WE ASSUME IS PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE, WOULD SEEM ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE IN LIGHT OF THE POLISH MOD'S BRUSQUE REJECTION OF SUCH A VISIT LAST YEAR.

3. WE THEREFORE THINK THE SCOPE OF OUR PROPOSALS SHOULD BE REDUCED. FIRST, WE WOULD RECOMMEND DROPPING OR POSTPONING THE ACAF VISIT. EVEN THOUGH THIS VISIT WOULD NOT ENTAIL MEETINGS OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY, IT WOULD COME BACK TO BACK IN APRIL WITH THE NWC VISIT. WE ARE NOT SURE HOW CLEARLY THE POLES WOULD CHOOSE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TWO NDU COMPONENTS, AND THUS SUSPECT THE ICAF PROPOSAL WOULD BE LIKELY TO MILITATE MOST STRONGLY AGAINST THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE NWC PROPOSAL. DROPPING THE ICAF VISIT WOULD ENABLE US TO PROPOSE ONLY THE NWC VISIT IN APRIL.

4. SECONDLY, ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE THE AWKWARDNESS IN CHANGING SIGNALS AT THIS LATE DATE, WE SUGGEST WASHINGTON CONSIDER WHETHER IT ALSO MIGHT BE ADVISABLE TO POSTPONE THE VISIT BY THE ARMY WAR COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBERS. AGAIN, THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE TWO WAR COLLEGES, AND THE FACT THAT THE AWC REPRESENTATIVES ARE CIVILIANS, MAY BE LOST ON THE POLES, DELIBERATELY OR OTHERWISE. IF OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS OBTAINING APPROVAL FOR A NWC VISIT, WE THINK WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO POSTPONE THIS SECONDARY VISIT ALONG WITH THAT BY THE ICAF GROUP.

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5. WE WOULD REGARD AND DESCRIBE THE VISIT BY THE EXECUTIVE SEMINAR AS ESSENTIALLY CIVILIAN IN CHARACTER DESPITE PARTICIPATION BY MILITARY

OFFICERS. WE THINK THAT GOING AHEAD WITH THE PROPOSAL FOR THIS VISIT WOULD BE LESS LIKELY TO AFFECT POLISH RECEPTIVITY TO THE NWC GROUP. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND PROCEEDING WITH THAT PROPOSAL PER REF B.

6. FINALLY, WITH RESPECT TO THE NWC PROPOSAL, WE REQUEST THAT THE EMBASSY BE GIVEN DISCRETION TO SUGGEST A MODERATE REDUCTION IN THE SIZE OF THE GROUP--SAY, FROM THE PRESENT 18 TO 12 (INCLUDING ONE OR BOTH OF THE FACULTY MEMBERS NOW CONTEMPLATED)--IF THE POLES INDICATE THAT SUCH A REDUCTION WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE AND INSTRUCTIONS ON THE POINTS RAISED IN THIS MESSAGE. (THE CHARGE HAS AN APPOINTMENT WITH DIRECTOR SZEWCZYK OF MFA DEPARTMENT III, ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, AT WHICH HE COULD, BUT WOULD NOT HAVE TO, BRING UP THE MATTER OF THE VISITS.)
BROWN UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, MILITARY SCHOOLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE061522
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/ISO:PSCHLAMM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780107-0648
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780382/aaaacqzp.tel
Line Count: 113
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8f99acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 47475, 78 STATE 53024
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3370998
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED VISITS TO POLAND BY NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU) AND ARMY WAR COLLEGE (AWC) GROUPS AND EXECUTIVE SEMINAR
TAGS: OTRA, MILI, PL, HU, GE, US
To: NDU WASHDC ICAF WASHDC MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8f99acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014